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Bostonians And Foreign Affairs

Massachusetts has been proud that while Southern Democrats have held the power in the Congresses of the Eisenhower administration, our leadership has always been, and continues to be strong in both Houses. But most Bay Staters don't realize that in the executive branch our influence is even stronger.

The three key men in the National Security Council at the present time happen to be Harvard-educated Bostonians. They are Christian Herter, Assistant Secretary of State, Robert Amory, Jr. of the Central Intelligence Agency, and Robert Cutler, head of the NSC staff and spokesman on that body for the President.

Our former governor has always had a particular interest in foreign affairs. Mr. Stassen notwithstanding, he is not likely to seek further elective office. It is expected that he will eventually succeed Secretary Dulles. The other two gentlemen are career men, not politicians.

The Washington staff of the Christian Science Monitor reports that this trio is credited with being "the best team yet put together in this center of government where the decisions affecting peace or war are made." It predicts "a more coherent foreign policy formation and implementation than we have been getting."

The importance of this agency of government is unrecognized by many people because it operates outside the political arena and is unpublicized. Yet its interpretation of the information brought before it and the counsel it provides for the President and the Secretary of State may make all the difference between well-timed, consistent foreign policy and the kind of blooper that has shadowed the Eisenhower Administration's foreign policy from time to time. This can have great international consequences and just as great political consequences at home.

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